

Top down survey & bottom up survey for RV Refueling Systems

Top down survey:

RV refueling systems having stand alone fuel tanks in CA: 11,500
(10,000 metal +1,500 plastic)

RV refueling systems having dual purpose fuel tanks in CA: 50,000
(40,000 metal + 10,000 plastic)

Bottom up survey:

- RV trailers registered in CA till 2008: 457,133 (with DMV code T-CCH)
T: trailer coach or house trailer, body type code (BTC).¹
CCH: body type model (BTM)
- According to participants, 98 percent store gasoline in the tank.
- Forty percent of registered RV owners stated the tank was made of metal, one in five respondents said the tank was made of plastic, and over one-third were unsure what materials were used.²
- Two-thirds of participants used the tank to refuel motor vehicles, mainly off highway recreation vehicles (73 percent). Three percent stated they refueled marine vessels, and 23 percent refueled either a truck or the RV. In contrast 84 percent of respondents claimed they did not refuel equipment with the dual purpose tank. Of the six registered owners that did refuel equipment, two-thirds refueled the generator.²
- Refueling instances ranged from one to 24 times a year with one respondent indicating the tank has not been used.
- The majority of tanks were stored outside mainly under a canopy, or with no shade structure.
- Of the 42 percent of respondents who claimed the tank was stored with fuel in it, nearly half did not know the fuel level when stored.²
- According to participants, the age ranges for the tanks are from brand new to 10 years old with one registered owner unsure of the age of the tank.
- None of the respondents had replaced the tank or have noticed any cracks or leaks. Nearly three-quarters (73 percent) of the tanks were top-filled, as well as 20 percent claiming they did not know if tank was top-filled or bottom filled.²

¹ DMV DATA BASE

² ANALYSIS OF THE 2007 CALIFORNIA REGISTERED VEHICLE OWNERS WITH A FITTED PORTABLE REFUELING TANK SURVEY